

REMARKS

Claims 1-24 are now pending in the application. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejection(s) in view of the remarks contained herein.

DOUBLE PATENTING REJECTION

Claims 1-20 and 24 stand rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over claims 1-20 of U.S. Patent No. 6,630,260. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicants have submitted herewith an executed terminal disclaimer in order to overcome this rejection. Therefore, reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

PROVISIONAL DOUBLE PATENTING REJECTION

Claims 1-20 and 24 stand provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over claims 13-14 of U.S. Patent Application No. 10/348,127. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 1-13 and 24 stand provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over claims 1-9 of U.S. Patent Application No. 10/627,145. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicants submit that with the provisional double patenting rejections being the only remaining rejections in this application, the Examiner should withdraw the rejections in this application pursuant to M.P.E.P. 804 I. B.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

Claims 21-23 stand objected to for being dependent upon a rejected claim. Accordingly, the submission of the terminal disclaimer and the withdrawal of the provisional double patenting rejections should overcome this objection. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection are respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

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